

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia REPORT

TOPIC Wire Obstacles under Construction in the Czech Border Area 25X1

around Varnsdorf 25X1

EVALUATION  PLACE OBTAINED  25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED  PREPARED 30 December 1954 25X1

REFERENCES

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

1. Since late August 1954, a barbed-wire entanglement parallel to the border was under construction in the Czech border area on both sides of Varnsdorf (O 51/G 8). The obstacle started in the area of the Luz (Lausche) hill and, in November 1954, extended in a continuous line as far as the area about 2 kilometers west of Varnsdorf. As early as November 1954, posts to support the extension of the entanglement toward Rumburk (O 51/F 78) were set up. 1 25X1
2. Only PS soldiers engaged in the construction of the obstacle. A construction crew of about 50 soldiers dug the holes for the poles, another crew inserted the poles, and a third crew fastened the barbed wire to the poles. Two types of obstacles have been observed so far. A three-piece obstacle was constructed wherever the ground conditions were favorable, while a single wire entanglement supported by knife rests was set up wherever the terrain conditions were unfavorable. The obstacles were 1.80 to 2 meters high. A narrow tracing zone, which was not continuous everywhere, was located between the wire obstacles and the border. 2 25X1

1. Comment.  Apparently, the Czech border along East Germany is now to be secured in a similar way as the Hungarian border. It is believed that the execution of this measure is expedited because of the flight of several individuals to West Berlin via East Berlin which has become known to the public. 25X1
2. Comment. It is believed that the border sector mentioned in the present report belongs to the Decin PS brigade. A previous report  stated that, in September 1954, soldiers of the Plana brigade were also detached to construct obstacles in the sector of the Decin brigade. 25X1

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